

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

IN A NUTSHELL COMPOSITION OF INTRA-GENERIC TROOPS

Host troop	Guest	Sp.	Sp.	Age	Sex	No.
ANAMALAI SANCTUARY						
1.	First Bend troop	P.e.	P.j.	SA		One
2.	Erumaiparai	P.j.	P.e.	SA		Two
MUNDANTHURAI SANCTUARY						
3.	Manimuthar Falls	P.e.	P.j.	SA		One
		P.e.	P.j.	SA		One
KALAKAD SANCTUARY						
5.	Nambikoil	P.e.	P.j.	SA		One

The following parallel situations can be considered.

1. The habitat was holding populations of both the species their home ranges overlapped.
2. The host troops are Bisexual Unimale troops.
3. Where as generally dry zone habitat *Presbytis entellus* are large here the host troops are composed of 5-12 members.
4. In all cases the guest is a sub-adult and female.

WILDLIFE WARDEN,  
KALAKAD SANCTUARY,  
KALAKAD,  
TAMIL NADU,  
October 20, 1981.

J. MANGALARAJ JOHNSON

2. THE CURIOUS DEATH OF A PANTHER

On 22nd February 1981, we spent a day in the Borivli National Park. At about 4 p.m., while returning we met a Forest Department jeep driving along the road with an iron cage on a trailer behind it. A Forest Ranger, whom I knew, was in the jeep and we stopped to exchange greetings. We were told that a pan-

5. Whereas social grooming is not a common social interaction amidst *Presbytis johnii*, a considerable part of daily activity of *Presbytis entellus* involve mutual grooming! However, when the sub-adult *Presbytis johnii* got associated with *Presbytis entellus* they probably acquired this behaviour but the *Presbytis entellus* members of the *Presbytis johnii* troop groomed only among themselves and did not groom *Presbytis johnii*.
6. There have been no earlier records of members of other species living with *Presbytis entellus* except in one incident when a male Rhesus macaque probably an ciation of *Presbytis entellus* with *Presbytis entellus* group atleast for 7 years.
7. Considerable structural fluidity among groups, peridelic addition to and departure from, the group take place in *Presbytis entellus*. This may explain the association of *Presbytis entellus* with *Presbytis johnii*.

This may be a temporary phase only. Nevertheless this area opens up possibilities of future research.

ther had been trapped in a village near Padgha (Bhiwandi Taluka, Thane District) about 40 miles along the Agra Road and they were driving down to fetch it. This sounded an interesting project and we linked up with them.

A little before Padgha the jeep turned off

toward the Mahuli Hills and after some tricky driving (at least for my Fiat) along a cart track we reached the village of Kalling. A large crowd of people indicated something of interest. We left our car about 50 yards away and walked up. The crowd was densely packed against a hut and we had to elbow our way through. The hut was the usual *Kathori* type, about 18 inches off ground level, the floor paved with cowdung and with the walls of Karvi (*Strobilanthes*) stalks. The Karvi wall on one side had been almost completely knocked down to exhibit a full-grown panther lying at the far end of the room which was perhaps 10' x 10'. It was obviously very sick and looked helplessly at the crowd which had gathered to see it. It was indeed an extraordinary experience looking at an adult live panther at less than 20 feet with no bars in-between.

The forest jeep then manœvered against another wall and they proposed to get the animal to walk into the cage. Upon my enquiring how the animal was to be persuaded and what was to be done in the event of its refusing to comply, I was told that some blankets had been sent for and that these would be thrown upon it if such a contingency should arise. I strongly advised against any such effort and offered to stand by with a gun if one could be produced. While this discussion was in progress the animal moved slightly and the

crowd stampeded backwards in such a hurry that it was with the greatest difficulty that we remained on our feet. The animal settled again in the same place. There was further discussion and as light was fading I thought I had enough of this adventure and turned homewards after warning the Ranger against any attempt to "catch" the panther.

The next day we learnt that the animal had died and that it had been sent to the Bombay Veterinary College for a postmortem.

I was unable to get reliable information regarding the manner of its death but I requested Mr. P. W. Soman, a member of the Society, who lives at Bhiwandi, to visit the place and get such information as he could. It would appear that a farmer Namdeo Jadhao in an adjoining village had encountered the animal on the previous day and been bitten and scratched in several places. His shouts brought help but Namdeo fell unconscious and was removed to hospital. On the next day the animal injured two more persons but was obviously very ill and finally took refuge in the aforesaid hut.

Though I have no definite information as to whether the animal was actually wrapped up in a blanket and put into the cage or had passed out before this was done, it was indeed a most curious happening.

The postmortem report follows.

75, ABDUL REHMAN STREET,  
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February 23, 1982.

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